

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(54) DRIVING CIRCUIT FOR THERMAL HEAD

(57) **Abstract:**

PURPOSE: To perform favorable gradation recording by controlling generation of heat on a heating element basis, by a method wherein thermal energy is calculated on the basis of a calculated value of a heat accumulation condition according to printing data and the pulse width of a voltage impressed at the time of the preceding recording, and heating elements are controlled.

CONSTITUTION: A heat accumulation condition calculator 36 calculates the heat accumulation condition according to printing data passed through line buffers 32-1, 32-2.... Based on the thus calculated value and the pulse width of the voltage impressed at the time of the preceding recording which pulse width is stored in a memory 39, a thermal energy calculator 38 calculates and determines thermal energy for individual ones of the heating elements, and generation of heat on a heating element basis is controlled by a driving pulse having a width corresponding to the thermal energy calculated. Accordingly, thermal dot recording with favorable gradation property is performed.

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